CONFIDENTIAL
Not for publication

150, route de Ferney
1211 Geneva 20

# MINUTES

# OF THE

# MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

# OF THE

# WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

7-9, 15 and 18 August 1976
Meeting held in Geneva, Switzerland

# C O N T E N T S


1. Opening actions ..... 1

   A. Introduction and worship ..... 1
   B. Roll call ..... 1
   C. Minutes ..... 1
   D. Adoption of agenda ..... 1

2. Report of the General Secretary ..... 1

3. Moderator's address to Central Committee ..... 3

4. Report of the Review Committee ..... 4

5. Follow-up of the Helsinki Agreement ..... 5

6. Selection of public issues ..... 7

7. Public statements ..... 8

8. Relationships with World Confessional Families .. 8

9. Preparations for Central Committee ..... 9

10. Constitutional matters ..... 10

    A. Rules of debate ..... 10
    B. By-laws for Programme Units ..... 10

11. Applications for membership ..... 11

12. Report of the Finance Sub-Committee ..... 11

13. Report of the Sub-Committee on Nominations ..... 14

14. Grants from the Special Fund to Combat Racism ... 15

15. Closing actions ..... 16

16. Future meetings ..... 16


APPENDICES


I. Attendance ..... 17

II. Membership of Sub-Committees ..... 19

III. Grants from the Special Fund to Combat Racism ... 20

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2019 with funding from
World Council of Churches

https://archive.org/details/minutesofmeeting00unse_57

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Geneva, Switzerland

7-9, 15 and 18 August 1976

## 1. OPENING ACTIONS

### A. Introduction and worship

The meeting convened at 9.00 on Saturday, 7 August. Opening worship was conducted by the Moderator. Worship before the session on Sunday, 8 August, was led by Mrs Sampath, and on Monday, 9 August, members of the Executive joined in the staff service in the chapel of the Ecumenical Centre. Closing worship was led by Archbishop Sarkissian.

### B. Roll call

The General Secretary called the roll of those attending, presenting apologies from Archbishop Sundby and Metropolitan Chrysostomos. It was agreed to send a message of good wishes to Metropolitan Chrysostomos. The General Secretary said that Metropolitan Emilianos, who was present as a Consultant, would represent Metropolitan Chrysostomos, but without the right to vote.

### C. Minutes

Dr Appel requested that in the second paragraph on Religious Liberty and the Helsinki Agreement (page 21) the words "dealing with the subject of" be inserted in place of the phrase "such as". With this correction, the minutes of the meeting held in Geneva, 22-26 March 1976, having been previously circulated, were confirmed.

### D. Adoption of agenda

The General Secretary presented the agenda, which was adopted.

## 2. REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

The General Secretary reported on activities since the last meeting of the Executive, and on preparations for the Central Committee.

### a. Follow-up of the Assembly

In the second phase of Assembly follow-up, there had been

meetings of the Core Groups and two meetings of the Review Committee. Staff had been through an intensive period of discussion, both within the Units and particularly on inter-unit concerns. The Officers meeting in June had helped to finalize the agenda for the Central Committee and dealt with a number of public issues. The Assembly report had now been published. Staff had participated in many meetings around the world and in the churches a variety of imaginative ways had been found for presenting the Assembly to congregations. The General Secretary also referred to the groups which visit the WCC headquarters, many of which become deeply involved in the work and thinking of the World Council.

b. Relationships

The General Secretary said that there had been many contacts with Regional Conferences of Churches in recent months, both in Geneva and elsewhere. He asked how better relations between the WCC and the World Confessional Families could be promoted. There was at present great emphasis on bilateral conversations and the work done on World Confessional Families at the Assembly needed to be carried forward.

With regard to Roman Catholic relations, preparations had continued for the meeting of the Joint Working Group. The list of WCC members of the group was now complete: Prof. José Miguez-Bonino (moderator), Rev. Prof. Vitaly Borovoy, Metropolitan Chrysostomos, Bishop Eduard Lohse, Bishop Henry Okullu, Dr Claire Randall and the three heads of Units (Dr Vischer, Mr Itty and Miss Bam). The first meeting would be held on 4-9 October in the Netherlands. Its main subject would be the unity of the Church and its aim would be to evaluate the present ecumenical situation, to discover where the Roman Catholic Church and the WCC have been led in past years and to identify the major issues which need further attention. A joint study with the Vatican had been undertaken on the participation of the Roman Catholic Church in National Councils of Churches. The main theme of the next Synod of Bishops would be "Catechetics in our time, with special reference to catechetics for children and young people". The WCC had been asked for comments on the preliminary documents. The General Secretary reported that Father John Lucal had taken up his duties as Director of SODEPAX in May.

c. Public issues

Dr Potter referred first to Lebanon. CCIA had produced a study bulletin to promote greater understanding of this complex and tragic situation and CICARWS had made tireless efforts to help the victims. He then spoke of the deteriorating situation in a number of African countries, including South Africa, Zimbabwe, Uganda and Ethiopia. The WCC had been able to send a team to Angola in an

attempt to be involved with the churches there in reconstruction and reconciliation. The situation in Cyprus had become even more tragic recently, with the expulsion of Greek Cypriots and the immigration of Turks. In Latin America, Christians were being executed or imprisoned and tortured because of their work on behalf of refugees. The total world refugee problem was now of such proportions that it should be brought again before the Central Committee during the coming session.

d. Finance and administration

Finally, the General Secretary spoke of the financial situation of the WCC. After the last meeting a letter had been sent to each member church concerning the request of the Nairobi Assembly for increased financial support. The response had been astonishingly good and showed the undoubted commitment of most of the member churches to the work of the WCC. He expressed his gratitude to Dr Gordon Coburn, who had had considerable experience as a management consultant and with his own church, for helping the WCC to reorganize its structures of finance and administration. His wide-ranging proposals had been discussed by the Review Committee, and would be considered by the Finance Sub-Committee before coming to the Executive.

* * *

At the request of the General Secretary, Mr Fischer reported in detail on his visit to Angola, 20 June to 4 July, together with Mr Joseph Guelly, General Secretary of the Sudan Council of Churches, and the Rev. Lawrence Henderson of the United Church Board of World Ministries, USA, to renew contacts with the churches in Angola and follow up previous contacts with government authorities. Although the team members had not been able to travel as widely as they had hoped and had spent most of their time in Luanda, they had contacted most of the churches and had extensive conversations with church leaders. They had also had contacts with government ministries and officials of the MPLA. Of the population of six million, one million were victims of the war, refugees, etc. The food situation, particularly in the East and North, was acute and the authorities were hampered by the lack of communication facilities. Any assistance the WCC and its member churches could give would be welcomed by the Angolan churches.

3. MODERATOR'S ADDRESS TO CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Archbishop Scott presented the outline of his report to Central Committee and asked that members read it and make any comments or suggestions for change. He announced that his church had agreed that he should give 20% of his time to the World Council of Churches. However, he was conscious that he had only recently become deeply involved in ecumenical

affairs at the international level and his report had therefore been prepared from the perspective of someone looking at the WCC from outside.

4. REPORT OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE *

After giving a historical summary of its appointment and mandate, Archbishop Sarkissian presented the report of the Review Committee. The Moderator explained that it would be presented as such to the Central Committee but that the Executive would (i) make comments on it which would be summarized by the Officers and shared with the Central Committee, and (ii) meet after the Central Committee had received the report and it had been considered by the Unit Committees, to assess the position of both the programmatic and financial implications of the discussion at that stage.

In discussion the following points were emphasized. Dr Simatupang felt concerned that while most of the proposals of the Review Committee dealt with programme and its financial implications, there was a tendency to raise questions of basic structure and he thought that this should not occur at this time. The General Secretary, while recognizing this danger, clearly indicated that priority programme decisions and financial decisions inevitably affected structure to a certain extent.

Archbishop Sarkissian emphasized that the small groups, which it had been suggested should function on behalf of Commissions and other sub-units in 1977, should not be taken to be a continuation of the post-Nairobi Core Groups.

Metropolitan Gregorios said that the suggested areas of concentration of the WCC programme as defined were too general and referred to the basic function of all churches, not simply of the WCC. Supported by Metropolitan Emilianos and Bishop Kirill, he indicated the need to include an additional thrust concerning spirituality and renewal in the churches. He also felt that the report did not give sufficient prominence to reflecting the Nairobi concerns for conciliarity and the implications of the concept of liberation.

Dr Vischer pointed out that the comments of the Review Committee did not touch on some programmes which had been going on for some time. Clarification about this matter would be of importance to the Unit Committees. The Moderator referred to the difficulty of handling concerns related to more than one Unit. The General Secretary stressed that in view of the major importance attached by the Nairobi Assembly to the Review Committee, Unit Committees would have to make a very strong case before its recommendations were altered by the Central Committee.

---

* The full text of the report appears in the Minutes of Central Committee, August 1976, Appendix III.

Metropolitan Nikodim expressed some concern about the emphasis on congregational life which presented difficulties for the Orthodox Church. He questioned the constitutional appropriateness of the WCC's dealing with congregations.

Dr Marshall indicated that, although the Review Committee was well aware of the financial situation, it had clearly concentrated on policy and programme matters. It had submitted an additional document on financial implications to the Finance Sub-Committee which would discuss it and report to the Executive.

It was unanimously agreed that the Officers should summarize the above discussion for the information of the Central Committee.

* * *

On Sunday, 15 August, the Executive Committee held a further meeting in the presence of the officers of the Unit Committees and the Committee on the General Secretariat of the Central Committee. The purpose of the meeting, which was explained by the General Secretary, was to estimate the state of the discussions in the Central Committee and its sub-committees on the proposals of the Review Committee in regard to future WCC policy and programmes. The urgent need, as explained by Dr Potter, was to devise the best procedures to enable the Central Committee to deliberate and decide on the major issues, and in no way to pre-determine those decisions.

Following an extensive discussion, it was agreed that certain meetings should take place between representatives of different Unit Committees in order to clarify unresolved issues, and to present agreed proposals. It was further agreed that the Officers should plan the presentation to the Central Committee in the following days.

## 5. FOLLOW-UP OF THE HELSINKI AGREEMENT

The General Secretary reported on the actions taken following the Nairobi resolution on human rights in the signatory states of the Helsinki Agreement. As agreed by the Central Committee in Nairobi, the question had been dealt with through normal WCC processes. These included staff discussion and a letter to member churches in the signatory states on 19 March 1976. A Colloquium of representatives of the member churches in the countries concerned had been held in Montreux, 24 to 28 July, for which CCIA had prepared a number of documents, including a summary of replies from member churches and other correspondence. The meeting had submitted a memorandum to the General Secretary which would be a background document to his own address and recommendations to the Central Committee. Members of the

Committee had received the memorandum. Dr Potter stressed that this Colloquium was only the beginning of a long process of discussion; in particular, more work had to be done to see the distinctive basis of the WCC's concern for religious liberty and human rights. The Colloquium had asked that a special advisory group be set up in CCIA to work with the churches and appropriate regional bodies. Dr Potter then gave an outline of his report to Central Committee, and of his recommendation that there be an international advisory group related to the CCIA and that some viable instrument be created in the Helsinki signatory states to enable the churches to confer with each other on the issues of human rights and of religious liberty.

Bishop Hempel was grateful for the memorandum but said that the recommendations should be stated in more concrete terms and something should be said about the possible dangers of religious freedom. Dr Appel considered the recommendations contained in the Colloquium memorandum too broad and asked what procedure was envisaged at the Central Committee to make them more precise and to negotiate an agreement on them. The General Secretary reiterated that the Central Committee would not be asked to act on these recommendations, but on those he would make in his report. A special group would be appointed by Unit II Committee which would include interested persons from other Unit Committees to ensure that any resolution brought to Central Committee would be fully representative.

Dr Simatupang welcomed this new possibility of discussion on human rights among the churches in the developed world, but asked how this concern would be related to the rest of the world. Given the very serious human rights problems in the Third World, some of which are linked to the practices of developed countries, it was important to see the inter-related character of the various areas and their problems. The General Secretary replied that the advisory group on human rights proposed within the context of CCIA was to deal not only with European and North American problems, but was to concern itself with all the regions and to widen the discussion further.

Prof. Barkat asked if the Colloquium had discussed the ways in which the signatory states of Helsinki were involved in the violation of the economic and other rights of peoples in the developing world. The General Secretary replied that the Colloquium had dealt mainly with the signatory states themselves and their relations with one another. The other aspect was raised but not discussed at length. The point of the advisory group would be to help relate further these different aspects.

Metropolitan Gregorios agreed with Dr Simatupang that the European situation should not be made normative for the rest of the world. In Asia, where Christians are in a minority and other religious traditions are dominant, a major problem

is to prevent inter-communal conflict and help people to understand and respect each other's religion. There, this is more important than religious liberty as such. The very idea of human rights had come out of a European tradition of individualism and rationalism, and had sometimes been misused as an instrument of exploitation. He pointed out that the early Christian Church had thrived on religious persecution and asked whether we were saying that there should be a situation in which there was no martyrdom.

The General Secretary expressed his gratitude for the comments made. He would be making recommendations which should help to strengthen the whole work of the WCC in the field of human rights and religious liberty and the ways in which people in the signatory states could participate in this discussion.

6. SELECTION OF PUBLIC ISSUES

The General Secretary reminded the Executive Committee that at the Assembly there had been considerable demand for an explanation of the criteria according to which certain public questions were selected for statements by the WCC. He had asked CCIA to consider this matter and make suggestions to the Executive as to areas of concern for possible statements by the forthcoming Central Committee.

Mr Koshy, on behalf of CCIA, suggested that the criteria were: the areas in which the WCC was involved; the situations in which there were major current developments; crises demanding some immediate reaction from the WCC; places where international Christian solidarity was needed by the local Christians. On this basis, CCIA proposed a number of current issues for possible Central Committee statements.

After some discussion, the General Secretary said that of course there always had to be a selection. Such selection was subject to criticism, but he was impressed by the seriousness with which governments and secular agencies took WCC comments as compared in some cases with the reaction of the churches.

Dr Abrecht pointed out that statements approved by the Central Committee also determined the positions taken by staff in representing the WCC.

In discussion there was some emphasis on the danger of making too many such statements. After further discussion, it was agreed that the CCIA statement on the criteria for selection and its list of current issues should be submitted to the Central Committee for consideration, along with other suggestions, by the Unit II Committee.

7. PUBLIC STATEMENTS

The General Secretary referred to the question raised at the last meeting of the handling of statements in the name of the WCC. He submitted a document on the constitutional provisions and the rights of various authorities to speak for the WCC. He said that as staff members travelled round the world it was inevitable that they should make statements, which were then assumed, particularly by the local press, to be official statements of the WCC. It was agreed that staff should always make it clear when they were reporting WCC policy and when they were speaking on their own behalf.

In the course of discussion there was particular emphasis on the nature of editorials in official WCC publications. When these were unsigned, they were taken as authoritative statements of WCC policy although in some cases they did not carry that authority. The question was raised as to whether "editorial" was the right heading for introductory material if it did not set out official WCC policy.

Dr Visser 't Hooft expressed appreciation for the study of the problem. He hoped that staff would be frequently reminded of their degree of authority in this field, and that the question of editorials would be further studied. It was agreed that action should be taken along these lines.

8. RELATIONSHIPS WITH WORLD CONFESSIONAL FAMILIES

Dr Vischer reported on the annual meeting of Executive Secretaries of World Confessional Families held in London, 10 to 12 May. These Secretaries represent very different groups with no clear relation to one another. Most World Confessional Families are now involved in bilateral conversations and are beginning to deal with doctrinal agreements. Dr Vischer suggested that the WCC should deal with the World Confessional Families individually since each has different problems, and felt that it was important for the WCC to clarify its own attitude to the confessional traditions within Christianity.

After discussion, the General Secretary suggested that in view of the importance of this question the Executive should ask staff to prepare for a discussion in February, when the Executive could decide how to present the matter to Central Committee for a full debate. It was agreed to appoint the following group to outline the work to be done: Dr Appel, Prof. Barkat, Metropolitan Gregorios, Dr Rossel and Dr Vischer.

At a later session the sub-committee presented its report. It said that the Nairobi Assembly had asked for "a reappraisal of ecumenical commitments" and "a greater interdependence of ecumenical initiatives". It had recommended

that the Central Committee should "encourage further reflection on this matter", especially with regard to World Confessional Families, as well as to regional and national councils. The sub-committee recommended and the Executive agreed that the issue be discussed in detail at its next meeting in February 1977 and that the staff should prepare for such a discussion. It was hoped that the study would result in a clear statement for policy orientation to be adopted by the Central Committee. It was suggested that the following aspects be taken into account in the study:

a. The findings of bilateral conversations and their contribution to the ecumenical movement need to be assessed (cf. the Faith and Order survey on bilateral conversations "Confessions in Dialogue" and the proposal of the World Confessional Families to set up a forum for "the regular evaluation of bilateral conversations").

b. The debate in World Confessional Families on their role and their contribution to the ecumenical movement; a response may need to be made to the study paper "The Ecumenical Role of the WCFs in the Ecumenical Movement".

c. The positive and negative aspects of the increasing reaffirmation of confessional and denominational traditions as a proposed way back to spiritual roots and identity; the situation of united churches in this context (cf. meeting of representatives of United Churches in Toronto 1975).

d. The collaboration between the WCC and the WCFs needs to be evaluated in all areas of WCC activities, to avoid unnecessary duplication and to ensure maximum effectiveness.

e. The reassessment of relationships will need to be undertaken in close contact with regional and national ecumenical bodies, especially in the Third World where WCFs are widely seen as expressions of development in the history of Western Christianity.

f. Two related efforts may need to be taken into account:

i. the meeting which took place in 1975 between the WCC and representatives of regional councils;

ii. the survey undertaken in the framework of the Joint Working Group between the Roman Catholic Church and the WCC on national councils with Roman Catholic membership.

## 9. PREPARATIONS FOR CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Dr Raiser introduced the draft agenda and timetable for the Central Committee and referred to a number of other activities, such as meetings for regional and national councils of churches, which had been arranged outside the

actual Committee sessions. He also introduced the suggested arrangements for worship, noting that for mornings starting with plenaries the Moderators had been asked to be responsible for opening acts of worship. Archbishop Scott pleaded that no meetings be scheduled at the time of the midday intercessions.

Dr Raiser also drew attention to the allocation of Central Committee members to Unit Committees. The Unit Committees would serve also as reference committees of the Central Committee. The General Secretary reminded the Executive that the Finance Committee of the Central Committee would consist of members nominated by the Executive and representatives of the three Unit Committees. He proposed that the Officers be empowered to recommend to Central Committee the full membership of the Finance Committee and in conjunction with this also to propose the membership of the Staffing and Nominations Committee.

The Executive Committee agreed to all the proposed arrangements.

10. CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

A. Rules of debate

Dr Raiser reported on the progress made in the clarification of the rules as required by the Assembly. As requested by the Executive Committee in March, Mr John Bullimore had made a number of proposals for change. The Officers meeting in June had asked the following members of Central Committee to examine these proposals: Prof. Barkat, Pastor Henry, Dr Thomas, Mr Thompson and Miss Webb, with Dr Payne as consultant. It was felt that further work was required before a final proposal could be brought to the Central Committee.

After discussion the Executive Committee agreed that:

i. an additional woman should be added to the group doing this work;

ii. the Central Committee should be advised of the progress made and that a detailed proposal would be before it in 1977.

B. By-laws for Programme Units

Dr Raiser reported on the work done by the Units and on some of the problems arising from the differences in operation between the Units and the relation of existing by-laws of commissions to Unit by-laws.

The Executive Committee agreed to refer the matter for further consideration to the group working on the rules of debate, for report to the Executive in February 1977.

11. APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Dr Brash presented two new applications for membership. After some discussion, it was agreed to recommend to the Central Committee:

i. that the Methodist Church in Fiji be received as a member of the World Council of Churches;

ii. that the Protestant Christian Church in Bali be received as an associate member of the World Council of Churches.

12. REPORT OF THE FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

In a closed session, Dr Marshall presented the report of the Finance Sub-Committee.

1. 1975 accounts

The Finance Sub-Committee recommended and the Executive Committee agreed:

that the audited report of the statement of accounts of the World Council of Churches for the year ending 31 December 1975 be approved.

This would be reported to the Central Committee with the relevant supplementary material.

2. 1976 accounts

The Finance Sub-Committee had examined the 1976 accounts to the end of June and was able to report that expenditures within all sections of the budget had been kept below the appropriate figure.

3. Report of the acting Finance Officer

a. The Finance Sub-Committee had received a report from Dr Coburn and accepted the assessment of the acting Finance Officer that the integrity of the Central Committee is undermined by a situation in which only 20% of the funds required to maintain the Council's life are directly under the control of the Central and Executive Committees. The Finance Sub-Committee recommended and the Executive agreed that it be accepted as an objective within the next five years that fund-raising should be on the basis of increasing this to 70%.

b. The Finance Sub-Committee recommended and the Executive agreed to give general approval to the proposals:

i. that the World Council of Churches adopt a unified plan of finance as a basic policy under which the seeking of general and undesignated support for the work of the Council is made the principal thrust of the Council staff in raising funds;

ii. that an officer be appointed to the General Secretariat in an assistant position to be generally responsible for budget development and to coordinate the fund-raising programme now carried on in the sub-units;

iii. that a specific policy be established with respect to designated contributions; administrative and general WCC overhead expenses must be either covered out of such designated contributions or otherwise;

iv. that the services of a Unit Finance Officer be continued and strengthened in each Unit on a whole or part-time basis and that this officer be the channel through which all unit financial operations flow;

v. that the WCC appoint a Chief Financial and Administrative Officer who should be a Deputy General Secretary;

vi. that a Comptroller, Treasurer and Central Services Manager be appointed under the direction of the Chief Financial and Administrative Officer.

c. The Finance Sub-Committee also recommended and the Executive agreed that the proposals to appoint Moderators of the Units separate from the Heads of Sub-Units, and the transferring of all policy-making to the Unit Committees, be further studied and a report be submitted to the Executive Committee in February 1977.

d. The Finance Sub-Committee strongly endorsed the proposals to engage professional assistance in the establishment of a new accounting system at the estimated cost of Sfr. 100,000, to be taken if necessary from the General Reserve. The Executive Committee approved this action.

e. The Finance Sub-Committee endorsed the proposal in Dr Coburn's report regarding the employment of professional assistance for as long as is necessary to reorganize the Electronic Data Processing operations of the WCC, to be financed from the computer replacement fund. The Executive Committee approved this action.

4. Auditing of 1976 accounts

The Finance Sub-Committee requested and the Executive agreed to recommend to the Central Committee that the Executive Committee in March 1977 be empowered to appoint the auditor for the 1976 accounts.

5. Allocation of interests

The Finance Sub-Committee recommended and the Executive agreed that discussions take place as soon as possible with those sub-units and major donors concerned with the interest earning and exchange gains/losses of WCC funds so that a new system of handling these funds may be adopted as from 1 January 1977.

6. Report of the Review Committee

The Finance Sub-Committee had studied carefully the financial implications of the proposals of the Review Committee as submitted to it. The Sub-Committee welcomed the proposed economies on financial grounds and considered that the estimates of amounts involved were approximately correct.

7. Reserves and provisions

The Finance Sub-Committee had received from staff, as requested, a first list of the reserves and provisions available to the WCC. The Sub-Committee had asked staff to study this matter further and make proposals to the March Executive Committee regarding policy decisions required.

8. 1977 budget

The Finance Sub-Committee indicated that the requisite documents were not yet available to allow the Executive Committee to take action on the 1977 budget, although these were in course of preparation. The Finance Sub-Committee was itself ready to accept the figures it had been studying, with the exception of the figures currently available for the Department of Communication, the Ecumenical Institute and the New York Office. The Ecumenical Institute and the New York Office would be handled in detail during the Central Committee. The Finance Sub-Committee recommended, and the Executive agreed, that a full report on the Department of Communication be prepared for the Executive meeting in February 1977 with an explanation of how the budget cuts decided by the Executive Committee in Nairobi had been applied in a budget which now showed an absolute increase between 1975 and 1976. Notice was given to the Department that its 1977 budget was subject to radical revision at that meeting on the basis of such a report.

The Finance Sub-Committee reported that the proposed budget for 1977 included provision for some salary increases as from 1 July 1977. The Sub-Committee recommended, and the Executive agreed, that if this item was finally included in the 1977 budget that will be before the Central Committee, the possibility of making salary increases on a performance basis rather than by automatic application be

studied and a proposal submitted to the Executive Committee in February 1977.

In discussion a number of views were expressed about the timing of notification to the staff about proposals for the 1977 budget which would go before the Central Committee and which would affect their posts. It was agreed that after the proposals of the Central Committee had been formulated the Officers should share the relevant information with a meeting of the Staff Executive Group.

13. REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Miss Skuse presented the report in a closed session. The Sub-Committee had had before it proposals for the officers and members of commissions and working groups proposed by the Core Groups and the Nominations Committee of the Faith and Order Commission. In spite of all the work done, the Sub-Committee expressed its concern about the lack of balance in the total membership proposed.

In discussion it was noted that fuller information should be given about persons nominated, including their years of service in commissions. Both continuity and new ideas should be ensured.

On the recommendation of the Sub-Committee, the Executive agreed:

i. that members of the Executive Committee be asked to submit to the Nominations Committee of the Central Committee, through the General Secretary, additional names, either in substitution for any name presently included in the lists or as a new proposal which would help to achieve an equitable balance; such proposals should be received in writing with details about the person(s) proposed before Friday, 13 August at 12.30 p.m.;

ii. that the list of officers for commissions and working groups be referred back for further consultation by the General Secretary with the senior staff concerned, with the request to bring a revised list to the Nominations Committee of the Central Committee; special attention should be given to the inclusion of names representing Orthodox churches, Eastern Europe, Asia, women, and languages other than English;

iii. to take note of the proposals made by the Faith and Order Nominations Committee; further:

a. to record its opinion that this list as presented lacks in balance and should be redressed in order to achieve a more equitable representation of churches and regions;

b. to ask the Central Committee to appoint only an Executive Committee of up to ten members out of the names presently proposed for the Standing Commission;

c. to ask Central Committee to authorize the Executive Committee at its meeting in February 1977 to take final action on a revised list of nominations.

The Sub-Committee also expressed its conviction that the procedures for arriving at nominations are not satisfactory and proposed some guidelines to be followed in any future nominating process.

The General Secretary referred to the rule that "the Nominations Committee shall satisfy itself as to the general acceptability of the nominations to the churches to which the nominees belong". He stressed that nomination rests with the WCC but that consultation with the churches should take place whenever possible before rather than after proposed appointment.

After discussion and slight amendment, the Executive Committee agreed that:

i. the World Council should retain the right to include in its commissions and working groups persons other than those recommended by the member churches when their competence and expertise is of particular importance;

ii. the churches should be consulted in an appropriate way before a nomination is brought to the Central Committee for approval, in accordance with the Constitution;

iii. the names proposed by member churches should be seriously considered and reasons should be given when a proposal has not been accepted.

14. GRANTS FROM THE SPECIAL FUND TO COMBAT RACISM

On Wednesday, 18 August, the Executive Committee met to consider recommendations from the Core Group of the Programme to Combat Racism on grants from the Special Fund. The General Secretary explained that, because the Central Committee had requested that the criteria for these grants be re-examined, the Executive could not make recommendations at its meeting in March. The Central Committee had now approved the criteria and action could be taken on the grants.

Mr Sjollema presented the recommendations for the sixth list of allocations from the Special Fund. He outlined the procedure for dealing with applications for grants which included correspondence, visits, meetings with

leaders of the organizations which applied and consultation with other bodies. Of the more than 60 applications which had been received, 34 were presented for approval. It was proposed that the total of $560,000 in the Fund should be allocated. In Africa, PCR had satisfied itself that the grants would be used for humanitarian purposes only.

After some discussion, the Executive Committee agreed:

i. to approve the proposed grants to Southern Africa, Australasia, the Pacific, Latin America, North America, Europe and Support Groups (see Appendix III);

ii. in view of recent developments which have led to even greater suffering for the Zimbabwean people, to set aside US $85,000 for the struggle for racial justice and self-determination in Zimbabwe, the release of this sum to be determined by the WCC Officers upon the General Secretary's recommendation;

iii. to ask the staff to edit the full text of the proposals before its publication;

iv. that a paper indicating all the organizations helped and the number of times each had received a grant from the Special Fund be submitted when the next proposals for grants are presented to the Executive Committee for approval.

15. CLOSING ACTIONS

The Moderator thanked the Committee and staff for their work. Mr Gatu expressed the thanks of the Executive to the Moderator for his leadership.

16. FUTURE MEETINGS

Executive Committee: 14-18 February 1977
25-27 July 1977

Central Committee: 28 July - 6 August 1977

APPENDIX I

## ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

| | |
|---|---|
| Honorary President: | Rev. Dr W.A. Visser 't Hooft |
| Presidents: | Mrs Justice A.R. Jiagge<br>Prof. J. Miguez-Bonino<br>His Eminence Metropolitan Nikodim<br>Dr T.B. Simatupang<br>Dr C. Wedel |
| Officers: | Most Rev. E.W. Scott (Moderator)<br>Most Rev. K. Sarkissian (Vice-Moderator)<br>Miss J. Skuse (Vice-Moderator)<br>Rev. Dr P.A. Potter (General Secretary) |
| Members: | Rev. Dr A. Appel<br>Prof. Dr A.M. Barkat<br>Mr Bena-Silu<br>Rev. J.G. Gatu<br>His Eminence Metropolitan Gregorios<br>Bishop H.H. Harms<br>Bishop Dr J.W. Hempel<br>Rev. Dr Won Yong Kang<br>Bishop Kirill (Gundayayev)<br>Rev. Dr R.J. Marshall<br>Rev. Dr J.O. McCloud<br>Rt Rev. Antonie (Plamadeala)<br>Rev. Dr J. Rossel<br>Mrs D. Sampath<br>Miss P. Webb |
| Consultants: | His Eminence Metropolitan Emilianos<br>Bishop Makary (Svistoun) |
| Staff: | Dr P. Abrecht<br>Miss B. Bam<br>Dr N. Barrow<br>Dr A.A. Brash<br>Rev. E. Castro<br>Dr J.G. Coburn<br>Mr J. Fischer<br>Mr J. Hilke<br>Mr C.I. Itty<br>Mr N. Koshy<br>Rev. C.H. Long<br>Canon Prof. J. Mbiti<br>Mr G. Meyer<br>Mr L.J. Niilus<br>Dr K. Raiser<br>Dr S. Samartha<br>Mr B. Sjollema |

| | |
|---|---|
| | Miss F. Smith |
| | Miss M. van Vredenburch |
| | Dr L. Vischer |
| | Mrs M. Webb |
| Interpreters: | Miss I. Friedeberg |
| | Miss R. Ginglas |
| | Miss N. Gorina |
| | Mr A. Nalpanis |
| Minute Writer: | Miss A. Burrows |

APOLOGIES:

| | |
|---|---|
| President: | Most Rev. O. Sundby |
| Member: | His Eminence Metropolitan Chrysostomos |

APPENDIX II

## MEMBERSHIP OF SUB-COMMITTEES

### Sub-Committee on Finance

Rev. Dr R.J. Marshall (Moderator)
Rt Rev. Antonie (Plamadeala)
Prof. Dr A.M. Barkat
Mr Bena-Silu
Bishop H.H. Harms
Bishop Kirill (Gundayayev)
Rev. Dr J.O. McCloud
Rev. Dr J. Rossel
Miss P. Webb

### Sub-Committee on Staffing and Nominations

Miss J. Skuse (Moderator)
Most Rev. K. Sarkissian
Rev. Dr A. Appel
His Eminence Metropolitan Chrysostomos
Rev. J. Gatu
His Eminence Metropolitan Gregorios
Bishop Dr J.W. Hempel
Rev. Dr Won Yong Kang
Mrs D. Sampath

## GRANTS FROM THE SPECIAL FUND TO COMBAT RACISM

### LIST OF ALLOCATIONS FOR 1976

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **SOUTHERN AFRICA** | | |
| * African National Congress of S.A. | US $ | 50,000 |
| * Pan Africanist Congress of Azania | US $ | 50,000 |
| * Zimbabwe Liberation Struggle | US $ | 85,000 |
| * South West African People's Organisation, Namibia | US $ | 85,000 |
| South African Congress of Trade Unions | US $ | 5,000 |
| | US $ | 275,000 |
| **AUSTRALASIA** | | |
| * Federal Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders (F.C.A.A.T.S.I.) | US $ | 10,000 |
| **PACIFIC** | | |
| New Hebrides National Party | US $ | 10,000 |
| **LATIN AMERICA** | | |
| * Asociacion Nacional de Usuarios Campesinos (ANUC), Colombia | US $ | 10,000 |
| * Consejo Regional Indigena (CRIC), Colombia | US $ | 15,000 |
| | US $ | 25,000 |
| **NORTH AMERICA** | | |
| Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement (COPE), Canada | US $ | 10,000 |
| * American Indian Movement (AIM), USA | US $ | 15,000 |
| * Delta Ministry, USA | US $ | 15,000 |
| NAACP - Legal Defense Fund, USA | US $ | 10,000 |
| * United Farm Workers, USA | US $ | 15,000 |
| Puerto Rico Solidarity Committee, USA | US $ | 15,000 |
| | US $ | 80,000 |
| **EUROPE** | | |
| Britain -*Institute of Race Relations | US $ | 5,000 |
| *Race Today Collective Association | US $ | 30,000 |
| France -*Collectif des Organisations Africaines en France | US $ | 10,000 |
| *Association des Marocains en France | US $ | 10,000 |
| *Comité des Travailleurs Algériens en France | US $ | 10,000 |
| | US $ | 65,000 |

SUPPORT GROUPS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ASIA - | Anti-Apartheid Movement of Osaka, Japan | US $ 5,000 |
| Australia - | Southern Africa Liberation Centre | US $ 5,000 |
| New Zealand - | *National Anti-Apartheid Committee | US $ 7,500 |
| Latin America - | XLII Congress Internacional de Americanistas | US $ 13,000 |
| Canada - | *Toronto Committee for the Liberation of Southern Africa (TCLSA) | US $ 6,000 |
| USA - | *Africa News | US $ 5,000 |
| | Haitian Refugee Concerns | US $ 10,000 |
| | The Washington Office on Africa | US $ 5,000 |
| Europe - Belgium: | *Comité contre le Colonialisme et l'Apartheid<br>*Aktiekomitee Zuidelijk Afrika<br>*Boycot Outspan Aktie | US $ 7,500 |
| Britain: | *Anti-Apartheid Movement | US $ 10,000 |
| Germany: | *Informationsstelle Südliches Afrika<br>*Anti-Apartheid Bewegung | US $ 6,000 |
| Italy: | Liberazione e Sviluppo | US $ 5,000 |
| Netherlands: | Boycot Outspan Aktie | US $ 5,000 |
| Switzerland: | *Anti-Apartheid Movement | US $ 5,000 |
| | | US $ 95,000 |

*Movements which received grants before